GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2086
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2007
POWER PROBLEM DUE TO SUPPLY OF COAL
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Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the coal based power plants have to face problems due to non-supply of coal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the power companies including those in the private sector have to witness decline in their megawatt capacity as a result of inadequate supply of coal;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the total quantity of coal in tonnes supplied to the power plants during the last two years including the current year 2006-07 and the percentage of supply out of the total demand made by the plants; and

(f) the steps taken by the Government to ensure adequate supply of coal to the power plants?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO)

(a)to(d): No, Sir. The supply of coal to power plants is maintained as per Annual Action Plan target, however, some times supplies get affected due to factors like unloading constraints at power house ends, regulation of coal supply by the power plants, blockage of railway lines due to accidents/floods, local problems in mining area etc. The generation of power, has thus not been affected due to non-supply of coal. The power generation has registered a growth of more than 7% in coal based power plants during the current fiscal, till January 2007 in comparison to corresponding period of the previous year.

(e): The demand of the power plants is assessed b y the Planning Commission & Central Electricity Authority and the supply is accordingly made. The target of supply of coal viz-a-viz supply of coal through indigenous sources made during the last two years including the current year 2007 (Upto January 07) are given below:-

(figures in million tonnes)

	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07 (Till January, 07 provisional)
Demand as per Plan Document	279.52	303.56	322.00
Actual Supply (indigenous)	285.18	299.76	251.00 (Prov)

(f): In order to ensure adequate supply of coal to all power utilities, the supply of coal is reviewed by the Standing Linkage Committee (Short-term), which is an inter- ministerial body, under the Chairmanship o f Additional Secretary(Coal). This Committee decides allocation of coal on quarterly basis. There is also a Sub-group under the Chairmanship of Joint Secretary(Coal) comprising the representatives of Ministry of Power, Railways and Central Electricity Authority to monitor supply of coal to various power stations. The corrective measures taken by the Sub-group in the past ensured supply of coal to various power utilities to minimize loss of generation in power.